

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 03297 061326Z

44

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-03

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-03 INR-11

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 DRC-01 /148 W

----- 110489

R 061248Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0458

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T KUWAIT 3297

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, TECH, KU, US, PFOR, EFIN

SUBJ: KUWAITI INTEREST IN ATOMIC ENERGY AND CONVERSION OF SEA
WATER

REF: KUWAIT 3127

1. SUMMARY: AS INDICATED REFTTEL, DURING SECRETARY SIMON'S RECENT VISIT TO KUWAIT ACTING AMIR/CROWN PRINCE/PRIME MINISTER JABIR AL-AHMAD SOUGHT GREATER AND MORE URGENT US/KUWAITI CONTACTS IN FIELDS OF ALTERNATE ENERGY SOURCES AND CONVERSION OF SEA WATER. ACTING AMIR EXPRESSED SPECIFIC INTEREST IN ENTERING INTO DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING ATOMIC ENERGY. THE EMBASSY PROPOSES THAT USG PURSUE KUWAITI INTEREST IN THESE SUBJECTS AND THAT WRITTEN AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS BE OFFERED TO ACTING AMIR AT AN EARLY TIME. END SUMMARY

2. ON AUG 5 I ASKED MINFINANCE & OIL ATEEQI FOR HIS COMMENTS ON WHAT ACTING AMIR HAD IN MIND WHEN HE MENTIONED DESALINATION AND NUCLEAR ENERGY TO SIMON. ATEEQI SAID SHAIKH JABIR WAS VITALLY INTERESTED IN DESALINATION, ENERGY, ELECTRICITY AND WATER
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 KUWAIT 03297 061326Z

AND HE WANTED TO KNOW WHAT USG COULD DO TO HELP. ATEEQI SUGGESTED

A MEMO TO SHAIKH JABIR FROM THE DEPARTMENT OR EMBASSY OUTLINING ANY IDEAS WE HAVE.

3. PRESUMABLY SHAIKH JABIR WAS TALKING ABOUT KUWAIT BUT I AM CERTAIN HE WOULD WELCOME IDEAS FROM US ON US/KUWAITI COOPERATION IN THESE FIELDS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, PROBABLY ESPECIALLY IN DEVELOPING AREAS. IN ANY CASE, I STRONGLY RECOMMEND WE NOT IGNORE THIS OPENING AND THAT MATTER BE PURSUED AT AN EARLY TIME WITH A VIEW TO DETERMINING WHETHER MUTUAL BENEFIT CAN BE DERIVED.

4. LIKE SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN, KUWAIT IS INTERESTED IN THE POSSIBLE FUTURE ROLE ATOMIC ENERGY MIGHT PLAY IN ITS ECONOMY. THE CONTINUED AVAILABILITY OF LARGE QUANTITIES OF NATURAL GAS FOR POWER GENERATION AND SALT-WATER CONVERSION PROBABLY WILL INHIBIT EARLY KUWAITI INTEREST IN THE PURCHASE OF NUCLEAR POWER REACTORS. HOWEVER, A REQUIREMENT FOR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES (INCLUDING ATOMIC ENERGY) MAY COME SOONER RATHER THAN LATER AS MORE NATURAL GAS IS COMMITTED TO THE DEVELOPING PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY. IN THE SHORTER TERM IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT GOK WOULD CONSIDER INVESTING SUBSTANTIAL SUMS IN ASSOCIATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS OR MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES IN THE URANIUM ENRICHMENT FIELD. THE EUROPEANS, IN PARTICULAR, CAN BE EXPECTED TO INVESTIGATE THIS POSSIBILITY IF THEY HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO.

5. KUWAIT ALREADY HAS BENEFITED FROM ADVANCED SEAWATER CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIED THROUGH COMMERCIAL CHANNELS AND, IN FACT, IS DEPENDENT ON CONVERTED SEA WATER TO MEET ITS POTABLE WATER NEEDS. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT BOTH THE USG AND GOK COULD BENEFIT FROM A GREATER EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND PERSONNEL IN THIS AREA. FURTHER, SUCH COOPERATION COULD RESULT IN KUWAITI SUPPORT OF DESALINATION PROJECTS IN THIRD COUNTRIES.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: I WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED WHETHER A MEMO(S) OF THE KIND DESCRIBED BY ATEEQI CAN BE PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OR INTERESTED USG AGENCIES FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SHAIKH JABIR. I ALSO BELIEVE IT DESIRABLE FOR USG EXPERTS IN THE ATOMIC ENERGY AND SEA WATER CONVERSION FIELDS TO VISIT KUWAIT AT AN EARLY TIME TO EXPLORE MORE FULLY KUWAITI INTERESTS AND DESIRES. (WE UNDERSTAND SUCH EXPERTS HAVE OCCASION TO VISIT THE AREA IN CONNECTION WITH PROGRAMS IN SAUDI ARABIA, EGYPT AND
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 KUWAIT 03297 061326Z

IRAN.) BECAUSE OF THE PERSONAL INTEREST OF THE ACTING AMIR, HIGH-LEVEL VISITORS (I.E., A COMMISSIONER FROM THE USAEC FOR ATOMIC ENERGY AND THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION FOR SEAWATER CONVERSION) WOULD BE IDEAL. ALTERNATIVELY, WE COULD INVITE ACTING AMIR TO SEND KUWAITI GROUP TO VISIT US FOR DISCUSSIONS AND TO TOUR SCIENTIFIC FACILITIES.
STOLTZFUS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WATER, DESALINATION, ELECTRIC POWER, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KUWAIT03297
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740214-0505
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740871/aaaacjcd.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: KUWAIT 3127
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <24 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KUWAITI INTEREST IN ATOMIC ENERGY AND CONVERSION OF SEA WATER
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, PFOR, EFIN, KU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005